GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:167
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2004
DESTRUCTION OF FORESTS
Majhi Shri Parsuram

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of large scale destruction of forests in the country during the Tenth Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise and State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to save the valuable forest resources from destruction ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a),(b)and (c) : A statement is laid on the table of the House

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a), (b) and (c) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No.167 due for reply on 13.12.2004 regarding Destruction of Forests

(a)and (b) No, Sir. There has been no large scale destruction of forests in the country during Tenth Plan period. However, incidents of illicit felling of trees have been detected from time to time in different parts of the country. The Statewise number of cases, as reported by the State Governments during last three years are at Annexure-I

(c) The measures undertaken by the Government are:-

(i) Legal measures like Indian Forest Act,1927, Wildlife (Protection) Act,1972, Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and Environment Protection Act,1986 and the rules, guidelines thereof.

(ii) Management measures like working of forests according to approved Working Plans, Forest Development Agencies and Joint Forest Management.

(iii) Financial measures like providing assistance to the States / Union Territories under centrally sponsored schemes and externally aided projects.

Under the Centrally Sponsored scheme called `Integrated Forest Protection Scheme`, in Operation since 2002-2003, funds are provided to states and Union territories primarily for strengthening of Infrastructure for protection of forests from illicit fellings, fires, encroachments etc.

(iv) A network of protected areas has been established.

ANNEXURE - I

Annexure referred to in part (b) of the reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 167 due for reply on 13.12.04 regarding Destruction of Forests.

S.No.	State	Year	No. of cases
1.	Assam	2001-02	578
		2002-03	690
		2003-04	447
2.	Arunachal Pr.	2001-02	12
		2002-03	29
		2003-04	35
3.	Bihar	2001-02	603
		2002-03	343
		2003-04	78
4.	Chhatisgarh	2002-03	21064
		2003-04	18196
5.	Gujarat	2001-02	3761
		2002-03	4361
		2003-04	4432
6.	Goa	2001	1422
		2002	1515
7.	Himachal Pr.	2001-02	2850
		2002-03	2513
		2003-04 (upto 31-5-04)	409
8.	J&K	2001-02	7094
		2002-03	4490
		2003-04	3110
9.	Jharkhand	2001-02	924
		2002-03	1056
		2003-04	1339
10.	Karnataka	2001-02	11709
		2002-03	11091
		2003-04	10061
11.	Andhra Pradesh	2001-02	25017
		2002-03	33653
		2003-04	11839
12.	Kerala	2001-02	1478
		2002-03	1386
13.	Maharashtra	2001-02	54977
		2002-03	41888
		2003-04	32940

14. Madhya Pradesh 2001-02 62366
2002-03 70132
2003-04 44333

15. Mizoram 2001-02 104
2002-03 -
2003-04 -

16. Nagaland 2001-02 1
2002-03 2
2003-04 2

17. Punjab 2001-02 3819
2002-03 4650

18. Rajasthan 2001-02 5829

19. Tamil Nadu 2001-02 9040
2002-03 9650
2003-04 9761

20. Tripura 2001-02 860
2002-03 4841
2003-04 -

21. Uttar Pradesh 2001-02 4897
2002-03 5101
2003-04 4279

22. Uttranchal 2001-02 2364
2002-03 2229
2003-04 1698

23. West Bengal 2001-02 14829
2002-03 12969
2003-04 11315

24. Sikkim 2001-02 48
2002-03 28
2003-04 61